

Applicant Review Panel
555 Capitol Mall, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95814
votersfirstact@auditor.ca.gov
Regarding: Raymond M. Alden

Gentlemen/Ladies

I am Dr. John Cushman, Pastor of the Church of the Roses, in Santa Rosa, California. I am writing in support of RAYMOND M. ALDEN who is a candidate for the State Redistricting Commission. I have known Mr. Alden in the capacity of Pastor, friend, and strategic planner for six years and served with him on boards of our church, and Presbytery (the collection of Presbyterian Churches in Northern California.) He has served as Elder (the elected representative of our church), Church Treasurer, and member of committees with fiduciary responsibility for corporate matters. His outstanding record in telecommunications management at the highest levels, together with his keen understating of human nature, have provided our church and community with leadership of the highest quality.

Two samples of his guidance help to support his leadership in our state and community.

- As the chair of a Presbytery committee charged with carrying out an investigation of a clergy member of our presbytery, he headed a highly charged political proceeding that was covered by media and watched by church members from every conceivable perspective. With the release of their findings, no one complained -- whether they were for or against the outcome -- that procedures of discipline had not been followed, and that the hearings were not conducted with fairness and openness. This measure of respect transcended a broad political and religious spectrum, not unlike the scrutiny that districting issues of our state will surely present.
- A second example is his visioning, and occasional mediation, involved in setting strategy, and obtaining buy-in from church members. He has been a champion of mission in our community, a strong supporter of the Montgomery High School Free Breakfast program, and an advocate for human rights.

I enthusiastically recommend, Raymond M. Alden, for the State Redistricting Commission knowing that he has an exemplary record in both the corporate and non-profit worlds, and I do so with the confidence that he is a man of integrity who will be a respected member of the committee.

Dr. John H. Cushman
Pastor, Church of the Roses

Santa Rosa, California 95404